

COUNTRY

East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Rathenow

EVALUATION 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 20 to 25 October 1952

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DATE PREPARED

25 November 1952

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. During the night of 20 October, 30 to 35 x 160-mm mortars

arrived by

25X1 rail at the north railroad station in Rathenow (N 53°2' 15") and went to the
25X1 Infanterie Kaserne. The installation was occupied beyond capacity since that
time, so eight tents had to be erected. Troops wearing red-bordered black
25X1 epaulets with artillery insignia and numerous recruits were seen. Fifty
uniformed women wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia
and an air force major were observed with the headquarters.

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2. On 25 October, the Pionier Kaserne on Rudolf Breitscheid Strasse was occupied
to capacity by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery25X1 insignia. Field howitzers of 122-mm and 120-mm mortars
25X1 were seen
in the barracks yard.²3. On 26 October, the unit stationed in the Kraftfahrer Kaserne on Semliner
25X1 Strasse and eight prime movers towing 152-mm field howitzers25X1 departed by rail at 2 p.m. An advance party equipped with
25X1 8 to 10 M-31 rocket launchers

moved into

25X1 the Kraftfahrer Kaserne. The advance party came from Premnitz south of
25X1 Rathenow. The troops prepared their quarters on 25 October.³

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25X1 2. Comment. The entire 18th How Arty Brig (US) was believed to be at the
Pionier Kaserne on 25 October. Previous reports contained several indications
for 160-mm mortars at the installation, last in December 1951, when units of the
brigade performed a loading practice with 122-mm howitzers and 160-mm mortars.
These mortars were previously carried with the 65th Mort Brig (US) which,
however, is believed stationed in the Infanterie Kaserne. As the present report

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again mentions mortars which, however, probably were 160-mm, the mortar battalion, which, on the basis of the T/E of the first mentioned brigade, was carried as 4th Bn is confirmed to some extent as having 16 x 160-mm mortars.

3. [redacted] Comment. It is possible that the 10th How Arty Brig (US) which is carried in the Kraftfahrer Kaserne may have changed quarters with the 25th RL Brig from Premnitz. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] there is a possibility
25X1 that the first mentioned brigade moved to the quarters of the unidentified
25X1 artillery brigade of the LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps in Altengrabow which were vacated earlier. [redacted]

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